

4. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the diameter of the drop-shaped grip is about 3 to about 7 cm.

5. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the prongs of the fork have a cross-section of about 1 to about 3 mmy.

6. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the prongs of the fork are bent downwards and outwards with respect to the longitudinal axis of the dental floss holder.

7. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the grip has two parts, the first part having a shell-shaped construction and the second part constructed as a detachable or fold-down lid.

8. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that within the grip, a post extends substantially perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the dental floss holder.

9. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that the grip is provided with a resiliently mounted locking mechanism, which has a post operable by pressure for releasing the locking action.

10. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 9, characterized in that the resilient mounting is implemented by a spring element and that the grip has securing elements for preventing a loss of the spring element.

11. (Amended) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that it has a cutting device for cutting off the used dental floss.

12. (New) Dental floss holder according to claim 1, characterized in that it is provided with a means for imparting high frequency oscillations to the floss.